

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-19

AGR-20 RSR-01 COA-02 /185 W
----- 091739

R 171515 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8053
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
USMISSION USUN NY

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, MX

SUBJ: ECHEVERRIA LEAVES MOSCOW, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

REF: A. MOSCOW 4116, B. MOSCOW 4209, C. MOSCOW 4244

1. SUMMARY: MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA LEFT MOSCOW FOR IRKUTSK APRIL 17 AFTER COMPLETION OF TALKS AND RELEASE OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE PREVIOUS DAY. COMMUNIQUE ENDORSED MEXICAN-PROPOSED CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS PURSUANT TO UNCTAD RESOLUTION. IT FAILED TO MENTION LAW OF THE SEA OR DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS. TRADE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED AND EARLY SESSION OF JOINT COMMISSION ON CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WAS AGREED. COMMUNIQUE OMITTED CUSTOMARY INVITATION TO SOVIET LEADERS FOR RECIPROCAL VISIT. END SUMMARY.

2. ECHEVERRIA SPENT WEEKEND IN LENINGRAD, RETURNING TO MOSCOW SUNDAY EVENING FOR FINAL SESSION OF TALKS. AS BEFORE, ALL THREE TOP SOVIET LEADERS PARTICIPATED IN TALKS. ECHEVERRIA IS SAID TO HAVE FOUND SOVIETS SURPRISINGLY " IDEOLOGICAL." (REFTEL B.)
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LUNCHOEN HOSTED BY MEXICANS APRIL 16 WAS ATTENDED BY KOSYGIN AND PODGORNYY, BUT NOT BREZHNEV. ECHEVERRIA OPENED EXHIBITION OF MEXICAN PAINTINGS AT PUSHKIN MUSEUM INCLUDING WORKS BY RIVERA, OROZCO AND SIQUEIROS. MRS. ECHEVERRIA ATTENDED OPENING OF MEXICAN ARTS- CRAFTS EXHIBIT AT ANOTHER MUSEUM. PRESS CONFERENCE AT MEXICAN EMBASSY RECEIVED BLAND TREATMENT IN TASS.

3. JOINT COMMUNIQUE CHARACTERIZED SOVIET- MEXICAN RELATIONS AS BASED ON PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, EMBODIED IN PRINCIPLES OF EQUALITY, RESPECT FOR INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY, AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. BOTH SIDES WELCOMED PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM AND CALLED FOR STRICT COMPLIANCE. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT MIDDLE EAST TENSION AND CALLED FOR PEACE ON BASIS OF 1967 SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242. SOVIETS JOINED MEXICANS IN " CONFIRMING NECESSITY OF RAPID PREPARATION, ADOPTION AND PUBLICATION" OF CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNCTAD RESOLUTION.

4. SUBJECTS MISSING FROM COMMUNIQUE INCLUDE DISARMAMENT AND LAW OF THE SEA. SEVERAL SOVIET COMMUNIQUE IN PAST YEAR, INCLUDING ONE WITH CHILE, HAVE CONTAINED EXPLICIT REFERENCES TO LAW OF THE SEA. IN VIEW OF MEXICAN INTEREST, WE SURMISE THAT OMISSION REFLECTS LACK OF AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT. AS FOR DISARMAMENT, SOVIETS UNDOUBTEDLY FOUND LITTLE COMMON GROUND WITH MEXICANS AFTER ECHEVERRIA'S BANQUET SPEECH BERATED GREAT POWERS BOTH FOR INADEQUACY OF BILATERAL DISARMAMENT PROGRESS AND POOR RECORD IN MULTILATERAL FORUMS (REFTEL A). WE UNDERSTAND ECHEVERRIA UNILATERALLY PRAISED SOVIET DISARMAMENT EFFORTS AT PRESS CONFERENCE, POSSIBLY TO EASE UNHAPPINESS OF HIS HOSTS. FINALLY, WE ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN FAILURE OF COMMUNIQUE TO INCORPORATE INVITATION TO SOVIET LEADERS FOR RECIPROCAL VISIT. HOWEVER, THE TWO COUNTRIES STATE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CONDUCT PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS, A FAIRLY STANDARD ELEMENT IN SOVIET VISIT DIPLOMACY OF RECENT YEARS.

5. BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED DURING VISIT BY SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER AND MEXICAN FONMIN. ACCORDING TASS, IT CONTAINS PROTOCOL ESTABLISHING JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION AND SEPARATE PROTOCOL ON SOVIET SUPPLY OF MACHINERY ON CREDIT. SOVIET AND MEXICAN FONMIS ALSO EXCHANGED NOTES UNDERTAKING TO HOLD FIRST MEETING OF JOINT COMMISSION ON CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES, PURSUANT TO 1968 AGREEMENT, WITHIN 60 DAYS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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6. ECHEVERRIA DEPARTED MOSCOW IN TELEVISED CEREMONY MORNING OF
APRIL 17, SEEN OFF BY PODGORNYY AND KOSGYIN. HE WILL VISIT
IRKUTSK AND BRATSK, BOTH SITES OF MAJOR HYDROELECTRIC DAMS,
BEFORE LEAVING APRIL 19 FOR CHINA. MEAVY FRONT- PAGE PRESS
COVERAGE, TELEVISION DOCUMENTARIES AS WELL AS NEWS FOOTAGE,
PROMINENT BREZHNEV INVOLVMENT, AND WIDE REPRESENTATION OF SOVIET
BUREAUCRACY IN PROGRAM ALL INDICATE SOVIET JUDGMENT THAT
CULTIVATION OF OUR SOUTHERN NEIGHBORS MERITS PRIORITY EFFORT.
DUBS

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